Export of organic farm produce

1857. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to export Rs. 300 crores worth of organic farm produce within the next three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to save agricultural products from chemical pollution impact?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Exports being dependent on a host of factors, including external factors, no targets as such are or can be fixed.

(c) The average fertilizer consumption in the country which is only 84.82 kg./ha. (2002-03), is not considered to cause ill effect on the soil. However, in order to ensure that no ill-effects are caused, Government promotes Integrated Nutrient Management through use of soil test based fertilizers in conjunction with organic source of nutrients such as bio-fertilizers, green manure, compost, farm yeard manure and vermin-compost, etc.

To counter the ill-effect of chemical pesticides, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) which, *inter alia*, includes the use of biopesticides, biocontrol agents, pheromones, resistant crop varieties and also adoption of cultural and mechanical methods with emphasis on need based use of chemical pesticides as last resort, is being promoted in the country. The farmers in the country are being forewarned on pests and diseases, situation on various crops so that they can take up necessary IPM measures in time.

Assistance to Uttaranchal for milk production and livestock development

1858. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some proposals of economic-technical assistance for